



# NEWS

## R E L E A S E

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### HUDGENS REMINDS GEORGIANS: CHANGE YOUR CLOCK (AND YOUR BATTERY) THIS WEEKEND

**ATLANTA** – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph T. Hudgens wants to remind Georgians that they must change their clocks for daylight saving on Sunday, March 13, and they should change the batteries in their smoke alarms at the same time.

Hudgens said the annual change from standard time to daylight saving time is a good opportunity to make sure your smoke alarm is working properly.

"Every year in Georgia, there are fire fatalities in homes that did not have smoke alarms, or where the alarms did not function because of dead batteries," Hudgens said. "If you have a smoke alarm, make sure it is in working order. Changing the battery at least once every year and cleaning dust from the device are easy ways to ensure continued protection of your family and your property. Having a working smoke alarm doubles the chances you will survive a fire in your home."

Hudgens also recommended changing batteries in flashlights and weather radios, and having an emergency plan in case severe weather threatens.

"Last year, Georgia had nine fire fatalities in dwellings with no smoke detectors and three fatalities involving non-working detectors," Hudgens said.

Daylight saving time begins Sunday, March 13 at 2 a.m., this is when clocks are set ahead one hour.

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